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1976/04/22



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ACTION MEMORANDUM

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Authority NND919820

By EE NARA Date 4/8/87

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S/S cal April 22, 1976

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AS TO: NODIS
10: The Secretary
From: EA - Philip C. Habib th
S-S S/P - Winston Lord W
/S-I NODIS FILE(jhw)
Ambassador Gates' Discussions in Peking

During your initial luncheon with Ambassador Gates, you asked us to prepare certain materials to be used by Ambassador Gates after his arrival in Peking.

President's Letter to Premier Hua. Attached for your approval is a draft prepared by Dick Solomon and gone over by us.

Talking Points for Meeting with Hua. We are working these over now, and should have them to you later today. For reasons we would like to discuss orally with you, these will probably be less elaborate than you may have had in mind.

Arranging Meeting with Hua. You said that you wanted to ensure that Ambassador Gates has an opportunity for a tour d'horizon with Hua, and that he should report back if he is unable to obtain the meeting with Hua. We suggest the following procedure: He will request a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Ch'iao. In that call, he will attempt to avoid a general discussion of the type you want him to have with Hua. He will express the hope that it will be possible for him to meet with Hua and say that he has a letter from President Ford to Hua. If Ch'iao asks that the letter be given to him for delivery, we believe that Gates will have to comply. Otherwise, if Gates is given an appointment with Hua, he will send the letter through the Foreign Ministry a day in advance, so that it can be translated and read by Hua before the meeting. If Gates is not given an appointment within three or four weeks, he will report back for instructions.

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Letter to Mao. You also said that Gates should take a letter from President Ford to Mao and that a scenario be devised aimed at delicately suggesting that Gates meet with Mao. We would like to discuss with you the question of a letter to Mao, as we think it has some drawbacks.

With respect to hinting at a meeting with Mao, we think that Gates should wait for some informal occasion when he is with Foreign Minister Ch'iao. (We believe that Ch'iao will probably give a dinner for Gates not long after his arrival.) Gates could say the following to Ch'iao: "I understand that when Ambassador Bush accompanied Secretary Kissinger to the meeting with Chairman Mao in October, the Chairman asked why Ambassador Bush had not met with him earlier. I just want to say that if the Chairman wishes to see me at any time, I will of course be available."

Recommendations:

That you approve the attached letter to Hua.

Approve HAK (8/12) Disapprove _____

That you meet with us to discuss the question of a letter to Mao and the talking points. (We will inform you when they are ready.)

Approve HAK (4/8) Disapprove _____

Attachment:

Draft letter from the
President to Premier Hua

PER SECTO
11059,
4/25/76

Drafted: EA/PRCM:OVArmstrong:ccd/mfr
x26300:4/22/76

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Authority NND979620

By EE NARA Date 1/18/88

WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Premier:

I am pleased to introduce to you by way of this letter Ambassador Thomas S. Gates, Jr. the new Chief of our Liaison Office in the People's Republic. I have the highest confidence in Ambassador Gates, who has been a personal friend and political associate of mine since the period of the Second World War. I know he will effectively represent the views of my Administration, as did Ambassador David Bruce and Ambassador George Bush before him.

Mr. Gates has rich personal experience in matters that are of concern to both our countries. As a former Secretary of the Navy and Secretary of Defense, he clearly understands the global security concerns we face. Moreover, he has long been an advocate of a policy of security through a strong American defense capability.

As I remarked during Ambassador Gates' swearing-in ceremony, while China and the United States have differences which neither side attempts to hide, we believe our common interests in resisting hegemony, and in enabling all peoples to follow their own unique paths of national development, provide a strong foundation for a durable and growing relationship. We must maintain an authoritative dialogue between our two leaderships in this turbulent and complex world, and grasp occasions for parallel or cooperative actions which will support our common objectives.

At the same time, we understand that the opportunities for such action will be enhanced as we are able to consolidate our bilateral relationship. I have indicated

on a number of occasions since returning from your country last December that I remain determined to complete the normalization of our relations through joint efforts based on the Shanghai Communiqué. This not only will serve the interests of our two peoples, but also will contribute to building a more secure world order.

I hope you will share with Ambassador Gates your perspectives on both international developments and our bilateral relationship. He is prepared to sustain our side of this authoritative dialogue. At the same time, we welcome the return to Washington of Ambassador Huang Chen.

In closing, let me again offer you my good wishes in your new post. I hope you will also convey my personal regards to Chairman Mao.

His Excellency
Hua Kuo-feng
Premier of State Council
of the People's Republic of China
Peking



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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington, D.C. 20520

DECLASSIFIED
NND 979520
By *EE* NARA Date *7/8/87*
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XR 7608465

April 26, 1976
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MEMORANDUM FOR: EA - Philip C. Habib -7608724
S/P - Winston Lord -7608725

Subject: Ambassador Gates' Discussions in Peking

We have been informed (per SECTO 11059) that the Secretary has taken the following action on your memorandum of April 22 on the above subject (S/S 7608465):

- A. He approved the proposed Presidential letter to Hua; and
- B. He agreed to meet with you to discuss the letter to Mao and the talking points for the Gates meeting with Hua.

I understand from Jeff Cunningham that the NSC is now in the process of attempting to secure the President's final approval of the letter to Hua. In order to close the circle of the Department's action on the letter, I would appreciate EA's preparing a brief Springsteen-Scowcroft memorandum informing the NSC, for the record, of the Secretary's concurrence in the letter. It should be submitted to S/S no later than noon, Tuesday, April 27.

The S/S-S action officer is Ints M. Silins.

CAB
C. Arthur Borg
Deputy Executive Secretary

cc: S
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S/S
S/S-S
S/S-I NODIS FILE (jhw)

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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TAGS: PFOR CH US

SUBJECT: CALL ON PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG: GATES-WANG MEETING MAY 22

REF: STATE 109863; PEKING 0092; PEKING 0912

1. DURING DINNER CONVERSATION MAY 22 WITH VICE FOREIGN MINISTER WANG HAI-JUNG, USLO CHIEF NOTED HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING WITH PREMIER HUA. WANG COMMENTED THAT THAT MATTER WAS IN THE HANDS OF MFA PROTOCOL DEPARTMENT, ALSO THAT THE PREMIER HAD BEEN VERY BUSY AND THAT PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO WAS ARRIVING LATER THIS WEEK.

2. COMMENT: WANG'S MENTION OF BHUTTO VISIT (SCHEDULED FOR MAY 26-30) COULD WELL BE A SIGNAL THAT HUA WILL NOT RECEIVE USLO CHIEF BEFORE NEXT WEEK AT THE EARLIEST. WE CONTINUE TO HOLD THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER, DATED APRIL 27.
GATES

SECRET